

**COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF  
LAC DU FLAMBEAU  
NEWSLETTER  
JUNE OF 2022  
VOLUME XXI  
ISSUE VI**

***Our Mission Statement:***

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*As people of God and servants of our Lord Jesus Christ, we believe our Mission to be the building of a strong fellowship, ministering to the Spiritual and physical needs of the church, the community, and the world fulfilling our Lord's command to "Love our neighbors."*

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**THE CHURCH HIVE**

Bees live in a cooperative way described as "eusociality," or good relations. Each bee contributes a specific skill to the colony, synchronizing its efforts for the benefit of all. Likewise, a church's health depends on all members fulfilling their responsibility to the organism as a whole. Descriptions of hive life mirror Paul's words about the body of Christ, with members having different gifts "but the same Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:4).

According to R.S. Beal, Jr., who was both a pastor and a zoology professor, a beehive is the perfect "living illustration of how to walk in unity." He wrote, "Those of us who have believed in Jesus belong to one another just as much as we belong to Christ. We cannot live independently of one another anymore than we can live independently of Christ. Like the bees, we must learn to practice the sacrifice, labor, sharing, and submission of love that together we 'may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ'" (Ephesians 4:15, KJV). How are you using you own spiritual gifts to build up your church "hive"?

***Taken from The NewsletterNewsletter of June 2022***

**Session Notes from May**

There are no Session notes for May

**June Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Birthdays

Tom Gelwicks	June 16
Edi Spellmeyer	June 22
Paul Hoppe	June 29

Anniversaries

Jack & Billie Miller	June 13
Greg & Ginny Stiles	June 15
Erv & Nancy Teichmiller	June 29

**Scripture readings for June**

**June 5 – Day of Pentecost**

Acts 2: 1-21 or Gen. 11: 1-9 and Ps. 104:24-34,35b; Rom. 8: 14-17 or Acts 2: 1-21; John 14: 8-17 (25-27)

**June 12 – Trinity Sunday**

Prov. 8: 1-4,22-31 and Ps. 8; Rom. 5: 1-5; John 16: 12-15

**June 19 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/proper 7**

*Semicontinuous:* 1 Kgs. 19:1-5 (5-7) 8-15a and Ps. 42 and 43;

*Complementary:* Isa. 65: 1-9 and Ps. 22:19-28; Gal. 3: 23-29; Luke 8:26-39

**June 26 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost /proper 8**

*Semicontinuous:* 2 Kgs. 2:1-2,6-14 and Ps. 77:1-2, 11-20;

*Complementary:* 1 Kgs. 19:15-16, 19-21 and Ps. 16; Gal. 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9: 51-62

**Special Dates for June**

Pentecost	June 5
Trinity Sunday	June 12
Flag Day	June 14
Father's Day	June 19
First day of summer	June 21

**HIGHWAY "D" CLEANUP**

Thanks to the volunteers that helped our church with the spring 2022 County Hwy D cleanup. We do from WI Hwy 70 North to Indian Village Road. Everyone was given their road segment but could pick the best day. That was availability and weather were in our favor.

Volunteers were: Grant Birmingham, Jill Consie, John Hujet, Kim Johnson, Rick and RuthAnn Kamerad, Ralph Kerler, Bob Schneider, Steve Schunk, Marge Sholta, and Ron Wilke. It's always pleasing to see the improvement we make when picking up the "junk". Ralph lives near Hwy D so will do spot pick ups during the summer. See you in the fall.

## **THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE**

**May 29<sup>th</sup> Church Announcement by Ralph Kerler**

I'd like to give you an update on our Church's search for a new Pastor. We're reaching a critical period during the next month where we need guidance from the Congregation on taking the next step with the Manitowish Waters Presbyterian Church. Our Nominating Committee is planning on having a secret vote after the June 12th Service in two weeks to authorize having a joint Sessions meeting with both Church's. This is not approving any final Yoking agreement but rather working together on the details of how Yoking might work.

I want to emphasize we have some major challenges ahead. You should know there's a shortage of Pastors nation wide. The Northern Waters Presbytery reports that only 40% of it's 49 Churches have a regular permanent Pastor and that 10 of the Churches have Yoked with other Churches. We also have mayor concern's about funding recognizing our Church lost members during COVID aggravated by the loss of Dr Anderson.

We do have positive factors including our Manse overlooking Long Interlocken Lake. We're all aware that Lake Front property is in short supply and expensive. We also consider ourselves a welcoming Church with a long positive history in this area.

Our Nominating Committee which includes Sessions members is becoming convinced that sharing a Pastor with Manitowish Waters could be a win/win situation. But both congregations need to decide whether there is enough potential benefit to kick off negotiating how this might work. This includes funding, split service times, Pastoral availability, and housing (Manse). Note that the two congregations would be independent but share a Pastor.

So think about this situation ahead of letting us know your position on June 12th. . Feel free to talk to any of the Nominating Committee members if you have any questions. We need a simple majority on June 12 to start the real planning and then later a 2/3 vote when both Churches make a final decision on Yoking.

***See Draft Sample Ballot Questions On Next Page...***

## **Draft *Sample* Ballot for June 12 Congregational Consensus Vote**

*Below are Draft Sample Ballot questions for the June 12 Congregational Meeting at which these secret ballots will be made available. **If you would like to vote and are unable to attend church on June 12, contact the church office **NO LATER** than Monday, June 6 and an absentee/mail-in ballot will be made available to you. It must be returned to the church before Friday, June 10 so it can be counted on Sunday, June 12.***

\_\_\_\_\_ YES, I AGREE the Manitowish Waters Community Church and LdF Community Presbyterian Church Sessions should form a committee to develop a mutually agreeable Draft Yoking Agreement and Draft Ministry Information Forms (MIFs) to be presented to our congregations for a formal vote.

\_\_\_\_\_ NO, I DO NOT AGREE that the Manitowish Waters Community Church and LdF Community Presbyterian Church Sessions should form a committee to develop a mutually agreeable Draft Yoking Agreement and Draft Ministry Information Forms (MIFs) to be presented to our congregations for a formal vote. OUR CHURCHES SHOULD NOT YOKE and our session and PNC should instead embark on securing a pastor of our own church immediately.

## **Lac du Flambeau Community Presbyterian Church Survey Report**

### **Responses Received from Church Members, Affiliate Members, and Friends of the LdF Community Presbyterian Church.**

A total of 19 individual surveys were mailed to church members, affiliate members, and friends of our church. Church membership is 49.

#### **Leadership Competencies/Characteristics sought:**

The number after the item refers to how many total votes that competency received.

1. Preaching and Worship 17
2. Motivator 15
3. Organizational Skills 13
4. Compassionate 12
5. Flexibility 12
6. Bridge Builder 10
7. Strategy and Vision 9
8. Hopeful 9
9. Spiritual Maturity 9
10. Interpersonal Engagement 8

Survey Report Continued from Previous Page...

- 11. Public Communicator 7
- 12. Initiative 7
- 13. Emotional Maturity 6
- 14. Decision Maker 6
- 15. Personal Advisor 6
- 16. Externally Aware 6
- 17. Conflict Manager 5
- 18. Lifelong Learner 5
- 19. Change Agent 4
- 20. Collaboration Seeker 4
- 21. Task Manager 2
- 22. Risk Taker 2
- 23. Tech Savvy 1
- 24. Personal Resilience 1

**Strengths of our church:** (Specific comments offered)

Friendly	The people and their willingness to care and help
Friendships	Community and Missions work- Family friendly
Friendly involved people	Our People
Middle age group	Location
Encourage the “snowbirds to return to our church”	Attic Resale Shop
Community	Friendliness and Warmth
Size not too large	Friendly
Social opportunities	Friendly
Open and Caring Congregation	Financially Generous
Lacking number of people, current people have many good ideas, but there not enough people to fill positions and keep ___ programs going.	Moderate
Everyone is very friendly and supportive of each other. We are a family. We have various activities throughout the year which keeps us close – Chili cookouts, writing letters to snowbirds, soup nights, game nights, Easter brunch and of course our weekly coffee hour at church and Wed. breakfasts.	Doers and Thinkers

**Survey Report Continued from Previous Page...**

**As to the question about possibly yoking with the Manitowish Waters Presbyterian Church:**

**Yes - 14**

Could we yoke with a different small church than MW? Or must it be Presbyterian? Very much in favor of yoking with the “right person”

Need the synergy of our two congregations for worship, study and doing God’s work

Yoking would help provide the needed energy/focus on serving God and going beyond socializing.

**No - 2**

We need full attention of one pastor – full time or part time. Two churches mean split interests and larger congregation will swallow the weaker church.

The manse is a double-edged sword.

Our Congregation is just too diverse. I’m sure I couldn’t attend any joint services.

**Unsure at this time – 3**

Not sure we will receive the attention necessary to service our congregation and help grow our congregation

Need more information – particularly how costs will be handled on the manse and any other areas that costs will need to be split.

Need pastor with belief in the infallible word of God

**Things to Improve or Change:** (Specific comments offered)

Growth	Need to attract members
Increasing our congregation members	Emphasize “evangelism” more than we do
Try to hire a “younger pastor” rather than someone who is looking at a place for retirement.	The Manse is a 2-edged sword, “young” want to grow their assets i.e. equity. The Manse prevents this vs. house ownership.
As the missing people why they are “missing”	Keeping the “snowbird” congregation.
Opportunities for bible study and fellowship	Need new members
Need to grow the congregation	More Involvement
Need to establish size of congregation so more programs can be added and available to attract new members to join.	Need pastor who is kind and work as a role model
Outreach and social structure/role of the church in our lives.	Communicate with LdF Tribe
Improve the emphasis of our worship services	Trying new ways to reach out. I personally would like to see a woman and or someone young as our preacher/leader
Need to improve our “service” not only to those in our congregation, but to the community, region, nation and the world. Go beyond money with acts of volunteerism and other forms of outreach. Look beyond our “walls.”	Improve our sense of working God, holiness in our activities, actions. Improve our emotional energy, interest in reaching beyond our congregation/growing our faith.

*This survey was conducted by Session along with scheduled open discussion sessions to gather input, ideas, and opinions from as many people as possible to contribute to our LDF Study of Mission. People were encouraged to select desired competencies for a new Pastor and express a tentative decision about yoking. This report is open and available to the Pastor Nominating Committee and every single person in our church to enhance further discussion.*

### **MISSIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Your Missions Committee met in May to discuss the 2022 budget. Approved for “Round One” (of three) expenditures is the following:

**\$1,000 scholarships** for:

**Lacy Valier**, Lac du Flambeau student graduating Lakeland Union High School in June with plans to attend Ft. Lewis College (Durango, CO) Fall 2022

**Ariana Allen**, Lac du Flambeau college student currently enrolled at Bemidji State studying Business Finance.

**PENDING** expenditures include:

**Girls on the Run-LdF chapter (\$500)**

**Ukrainian teachers (\$500)**

**Caritas (\$1,000)**

Finally, we are considering additional financial support (through a congregational fundraiser/collection) to Ukrainian teachers currently teaching Ukrainian refugee children in Poland.

Please talk with Ralph Kerler, Jillanne Consie, Jo Mayeau or Kim Johnson if you’d like input into rounds two or three.

Thanks!